

INFORMATION REPORT

25X1A

COUNTRY

Indochina, Siam

DATE DISTR. 21 June 1948

SUBJECT

Tien Len, Organ of Viet Nam National Welfare Association of Youth

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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25X1A [REDACTED] Comment: The following report refers to a copy of the 6 April 1948 issue of Tien Len (Forward), received in this office.

1. The following information is given in the paper: Title: Tien Len (Forward), propaganda organ of the Youth Section at Udon /Siam/. Date: 6 April 1948. For sale at "Thai May" (apparently a bookshop) in Udon. For subscriptions and correspondence address the "Cultural Committee of the Youth Section" (Ban Văn-Hiến Thanh-Nhih). No name of editor is given.

2. The following are paraphrased summaries of articles in this issue of the paper:

- a. "Bao Dai--The Unfilial Son" (Bào Dai--dứa con bất hiếu!!). Monarchy is obsolete and the history of Bao Dai's ancestors is inglorious. Bao Dai himself was the puppet of the French and the Japanese and was spoiled and exploited by them; it is inconceivable that he can help us in our fight for independence. He is opposed to revolution, democracy and peace, and wants to create a civil war in Indochina. But the wheel of peace and democracy will crush him.

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[REDACTED] Comment: This article, in the original Annamese, gives the impression of being quite violent in tone. It is in complete contrast to the tone of Ho Chi Minh's dignified and respectful utterances regarding Bao Dai.) [REDACTED]

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- b. "The Heart of a Fighter" (Một Tâm Hồn Chiến Đấu). I had never believed that my friend C.H. (in Udon) would join the Resistance (in Indochina), as he had many responsibilities to his old father, to his young brothers and to his fiancée. Nevertheless, when a call for volunteers came in March (1948), he was the first to volunteer. I went to the railway station with him. I saw him say goodbye to his family. His emotions of patriotism conquered his sadness at leaving them.

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[REDACTED] Comment: This is significant as an evidence that Vietnamese young men in Siam are still being recruited for the Viet Nam Army in Indochina.

- c. "Round About Udon" (Vung Quang Udon).

- (1) Some of the members are rather lukewarm in their enthusiasm and prefer to flirt around rather than come to meetings. This must be corrected.

- (2) One of our members recently married. At the marriage celebration

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there were some excellent patriotic speeches. But at the feast that followed, the host and guests used old-fashioned phrases of politeness which are rather out of place under present circumstances. The luxury of the feast itself was also rather unbecoming.

25X1A [redacted] comment: This article was written with considerable humor.)

- d. "In Order to Raise our Cultural Level, We Must Study Ceaselessly" (Muốn Để Cao An Tóa, Phải Học Hồi Không Ngừng.). Our youth are generally recognized in international youth meetings as being the advance-guard of Resistance and are given a place of honor. From this point of view, our youth are to be praised; however, from a cultural point of view, they have not yet gone far enough. Some of us have a tendency to say: "Fight first; study afterwards." This is wrong; we must do both at once, as do the soldiers fighting in Indochina.
 - e. "The People Punish Traitors" (Dân Trị Gian). In Indochina, according to an authentic document belonging to a Cochinese compatriot, two persons were talking. One of them said that tranquillity might be achieved by supporting Bao Dai. The other saw at once that he was a traitor and seized an oar and killed him. He then dug a hole and buried him. Does this not show that truly there is nothing so powerful as the strength of the People?
 - f. "Fighters on the Home Front" (Người Chiến Sĩ Hậu-Phương). Here in Udon, the most ardent of our youth have already left for Indochina to join the Army, but others for various reasons have been unable to do so. But they too are showing their zeal by joining the Police (Canh Ve). These people are doing excellent work and deserve our full support.
- 25X1A [redacted] comment: The Police referred to are not the Trinh-Sat (Secret Police), but a Vietnamese organization for the maintenance of law and order among the Vietnamese population in Siam.

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